General Assembly

Distr.: General
29 September 2015

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 123 (*u*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 10 September 2015

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/L.90 and Add.1)*]

69/318. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/1 of 17 October 1994, 59/20 of 8 November 2004, 61/48 of 4 December 2006, 63/200 of 19 December 2008, 65/316 of 12 September 2011 and 67/303 of 16 September 2013,

Recognizing the key role the Pacific Islands Forum continues to play in promoting sustainable development, environmental protection, good governance and peace and security in the Pacific through regional cooperation,

Taking note, in this regard, of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism adopted by Pacific Islands Forum leaders in July 2014 as a vital part of the sustainable development blueprint for the Pacific region,

Reaffirming the outcome documents of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States,[1] the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction[2] and the third International Conference on Financing for Development,[3] welcoming the agreement on the draft outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, and looking forward to its adoption and implementation,

Recognizing the important role and contribution of the United Nations system in the Pacific region,

Recalling the unique and particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States and the global commitment to take urgent and concrete action to address those vulnerabilities, including through the sustained and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[4] the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the

[1] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[2] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[3] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[4] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[5] and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[1]

Reaffirming the importance of enhanced high-level dialogue between the members of the Pacific Islands Forum and the United Nations, including regular meetings between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Forum leaders, and recalling with appreciation the first-ever participation by a Secretary-General at a Forum, at the forty-second Forum, held on 7 and 8 September 2011 in Auckland, New Zealand, and summit meetings between the Secretary-General and Forum leaders held in New York on 26 September 2012 and 26 September 2014,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[6]

1. *Encourages* the scheduling of the next meeting between the Secretary-General and Pacific Islands Forum leaders no later than 2015;

2. *Recalls* the joint statements issued by Pacific Islands Forum leaders and the Secretary-General on 7 September 2011, 26 September 2012 and 29 September 2014, and urges further progress towards their practical implementation in a timely manner;

3. *Urges* the United Nations system to align its work programmes and operations to support internationally agreed outcomes, including the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[1] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda[3] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in the Pacific region;

4. *Encourages* continued support from the United Nations system for the efforts of Pacific States and relevant regional organizations to achieve sustainable development, and calls for greater accountability and regular reporting of the support provided by the United Nations system, including through its regional and country programmes, to Pacific island States;

5. *Welcomes* the progress towards enhancing cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum and its associated institutions;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the work being undertaken by the Joint Inspection Unit on the comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States, and looks forward to the findings of the review and the recommendations thereon regarding the sustainable development challenges of the Pacific small island developing States with a view to enhancing the overall effectiveness of such support;

7. *Stresses*, in that regard, the value of enhanced close cooperation and coordination between the programmes and activities of the United Nations system and Pacific Islands Forum members, the Forum secretariat and associated institutions, welcomes recent efforts by United Nations and regional agencies in the Pacific to enhance cooperation through joint activities, working groups and other means, and encourages further practical steps to enhance such cooperation and coordination;

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[5] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[6] A/69/228-S/2014/560.

8. *Reiterates* the importance of an enhanced and effective United Nations presence, particularly at the country level, in the Pacific region;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum".

102nd plenary meeting
10 September 2015

General Assembly

Distr.: General
29 September 2015

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 13 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 10 September 2015

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/L.84)*]

69/319. Basic Principles on Sovereign Debt Restructuring Processes

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 68/304 of 9 September 2014 and 69/247 of 29 December 2014 concerning sovereign debt restructuring processes,

Welcoming the work carried out by the Ad Hoc Committee on Sovereign Debt Restructuring Processes established in accordance with resolution 69/247 throughout its working sessions, held in New York from 3 to 5 February, from 28 to 30 April and on 27 and 28 July 2015,

Stressing the importance of a clear set of principles for the management and resolution of financial crises that take into account the obligation of sovereign debtors and their creditors to act in good faith and with a cooperative spirit to reach a consensual rearrangement of the debt of sovereign States,

Considering the desirability of the wide dissemination and implementation of the principles, in accordance with national policies and circumstances,

1. *Declares* that sovereign debt restructuring processes should be guided by the following Basic Principles on Sovereign Debt Restructuring Processes, as included in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee:[1]

1. A Sovereign State has the right, in the exercise of its discretion, to design its macroeconomic policy, including restructuring its sovereign debt, which should not be frustrated or impeded by any abusive measures. Restructuring should be done as the last resort and preserving at the outset creditors' rights.

2. Good faith by both the sovereign debtor and all its creditors would entail their engagement in constructive sovereign debt restructuring workout negotiations and other stages of the process with the aim of a prompt and durable re-establishment of debt sustainability and debt servicing, as well as achieving the support of a critical mass of creditors through a constructive dialogue regarding the restructuring terms.

[1] A/AC.284/2015/2.

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3. Transparency should be promoted in order to enhance the accountability of the actors concerned, which can be achieved through the timely sharing of both data and processes related to sovereign debt workouts.

4. Impartiality requires that all institutions and actors involved in sovereign debt restructuring workouts, including at the regional level, in accordance with their respective mandates, enjoy independence and refrain from exercising any undue influence over the process and other stakeholders or engaging in actions that would give rise to conflicts of interest or corruption or both.

5. Equitable treatment imposes on States the duty to refrain from arbitrarily discriminating among creditors, unless a different treatment is justified under the law, is reasonable, and is correlated to the characteristics of the credit, guaranteeing inter-creditor equality, discussed among all creditors. Creditors have the right to receive the same proportionate treatment in accordance with their credit and its characteristics. No creditors or creditor groups should be excluded ex ante from the sovereign debt restructuring process.

6. Sovereign immunity from jurisdiction and execution regarding sovereign debt restructurings is a right of States before foreign domestic courts and exceptions should be restrictively interpreted.

7. Legitimacy entails that the establishment of institutions and the operations related to sovereign debt restructuring workouts respect requirements of inclusiveness and the rule of law, at all levels. The terms and conditions of the original contracts should remain valid until such time as they are modified by a restructuring agreement.

8. Sustainability implies that sovereign debt restructuring workouts are completed in a timely and efficient manner and lead to a stable debt situation in the debtor State, preserving at the outset creditors' rights while promoting sustained and inclusive economic growth and sustainable development, minimizing economic and social costs, warranting the stability of the international financial system and respecting human rights.

9. Majority restructuring implies that sovereign debt restructuring agreements that are approved by a qualified majority of the creditors of a State are not to be affected, jeopardized or otherwise impeded by other States or a non-representative minority of creditors, who must respect the decisions adopted by the majority of the creditors. States should be encouraged to include collective action clauses in their sovereign debt to be issued;

2. *Invites* all Member and observer States, competent international organizations, entities and other relevant stakeholders to support and promote the Basic Principles set out above, and requests the Secretary-General to make all efforts so that the Principles become generally known;

3. *Decides* to continue to consider improved approaches to restructuring sovereign debt, taking into account the Basic Principles set out above and work carried out by the international financial institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, and to this effect decides further to define the modalities for such consideration at its seventieth session.

102nd plenary meeting
10 September 2015

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 September 2015

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 120

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 10 September 2015

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/L.87/Rev.1 and Add.1)*]

69/320. Raising the flags of non-member observer States at the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the Preamble to the Charter and the reaffirmation of faith in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Noting the participation of non-member observer States that maintain permanent observer missions at Headquarters in the sessions and work of the General Assembly,

Recalling that the State of Palestine became a non-member observer State at the United Nations on 29 November 2012, and recalling also in this regard its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012 and previous relevant resolutions,

1. *Decides* that the flags of non-member observer States at the United Nations maintaining permanent observer missions at Headquarters shall be raised at Headquarters and United Nations offices following the flags of the States Members of the United Nations;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the measures necessary for the implementation of this decision during the seventieth session of the General Assembly and within 20 days of the adoption of the present resolution.

102nd plenary meeting
10 September 2015

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General Assembly

Distr.: General
22 September 2015

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 118

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 11 September 2015

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/1007)*]

69/321. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 68/307 of 10 September 2014 and all other previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,[1]

Mindful of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations Organization in 2015 and the fact that the Organization has grown considerably since its creation, in terms of both the number of its Member States and the issues on its agenda,

Underlining the need to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly,

Reiterating that the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly is a critical component of the overall reform of the United Nations,

Recognizing the role of the General Assembly in addressing issues of peace and security, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and acknowledging its role and authority, established in Article 10 of the Charter, to make recommendations to the Members of the United Nations or to the Security Council or to both on any questions or matters within the scope of the Charter, except as provided in Article 12 thereof,

Reaffirming the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations, as well as the role of the Assembly in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law,

Recognizing, in view of the twentieth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[2] the ongoing intergovernmental efforts within the United Nations to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women, and convinced of the need to guarantee equal opportunities for women and men in gaining access to senior decision-making positions, including to the post of Secretary-General, bearing in mind the need to select the best candidates,

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[1] Resolutions 46/77, 47/233, 48/264, 51/241, 52/163, 55/14, 55/285, 56/509, 57/300, 57/301, 58/126, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286, 61/292, 62/276, 63/309, 64/301, 65/315, 66/294 and 67/297.

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Please recycle

Reaffirming the role and authority of the General Assembly in global matters of concern to the international community, including in global governance, as set out in the Charter,

Welcoming the efforts of the President of the General Assembly to reinvigorate the revitalization of the work of the Assembly during its sixty-ninth session,

Taking note of the observations and proposals on improving the working methods of the Main Committees of the General Assembly made by the Chairs of the Main Committees at the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly thematic meeting on working methods, held on 14 April 2015,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly and the updated inventory of Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed thereto;[3]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the multilingual web page devoted to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, accessible directly from the United Nations website, which exists in all six official languages, and invites the Secretariat to continue updating regularly and equally that web page and its substantive content in a cost-effective manner;

3. *Decides* to establish, at its seventieth session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, open to all Member States:

(*a*) To identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on the progress achieved in past sessions as well as on previous resolutions, including evaluating the status of their implementation;

(*b*) To submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its seventieth session;

4. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall continue its review of the inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly, and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report to be submitted at the seventieth session of the Assembly;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[4] and requests the Secretary-General to submit an update on the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions on revitalization addressed to the Secretariat for implementation that have not been implemented, with an indication of the constraints and reasons behind any lack of implementation, for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventieth session;

Role and authority of the General Assembly

6. *Reaffirms* the role and authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate, using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly,

[3] A/69/1007.

[4] A/69/793.

which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter;

7. *Recognizes* that implementation of General Assembly resolutions, including those related to the revitalization of its work, enhances the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, and underlines the important role and responsibility of Member States in their full implementation;

8. *Reaffirms* that the relationship between the principal organs of the United Nations is mutually reinforcing and complementary, in accordance with and with full respect for their respective functions, authority, powers and competencies as enshrined in the Charter, and in this regard stresses the importance of further ensuring increased cooperation, coordination and the exchange of information among the Presidents of the principal organs and also with the Secretariat of the United Nations, in particular the Secretary-General;

9. *Welcomes with appreciation* the continued practice of holding periodic informal briefings by the Secretary-General on his priorities, travels and most recent activities, including his participation in international meetings and events organized outside the United Nations, and encourages the continuation of this practice;

10. *Reaffirms* that the presence of permanent missions serves to assist in the realization of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, recognizes the importance of their role in contributing to the effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly, as well as the role of the Secretariat in accommodating the work of permanent missions, and in this regard invites the President of the General Assembly at its seventieth session to conduct an informal meeting on this subject to consider ways and means to further enhance the cooperation between permanent missions and the Secretariat and to transmit a summary of the meeting to the Secretary-General;

11. *Also reaffirms* the importance and benefit of continuing interaction between the General Assembly and international or regional forums and organizations dealing with global matters of concern to the international community, as well as with civil society, where appropriate, and encourages the exploration of appropriate actions or measures, while fully respecting the intergovernmental nature of the Assembly, in conformity with its relevant rules of procedure;

12. *Recognizes* the value of holding interactive inclusive thematic debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community, and calls upon the President of the General Assembly to organize such debates in close consultation with the General Committee and the Member States, including with regard to the preliminary programme of such debates, in order to enable an adequate level of participation and an appropriate allocation of time for substantive interactive discussion during the debates so as to enable all interested delegations to state their positions and to facilitate, where appropriate, results-oriented and productive outcomes of such debates, and in this context welcomes the initiative of the President of the Assembly at its sixty-ninth session to select "Delivering on and implementing a transformative post-2015 development agenda" as the theme of the general debate;

13. *Takes note* of the letter dated 4 December 2014 from the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session addressed to all Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers expressing a variety of views of Member States on the content and quality of the annual report of the Security Council to the

Assembly, and encourages continuing efforts to ensure the inclusion in the report of more substantive information on the work of the Council, as appropriate;

14. *Invites* the Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, while carrying out its activities, as mandated by the General Assembly, to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the Assembly and to enhance, in the light of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations, world public and media awareness of the contribution made by the Assembly to the fulfilment of the goals of the Organization, as set out in the Charter;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, under relevant agenda items, to bring to the attention of Member States constraints that have prevented the Secretary-General from implementing those provisions of General Assembly resolutions that are addressed to the Secretariat;

Working methods

16. *Appreciates* the briefings by the Chairs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly to the Ad Hoc Working Group about the working methods of their respective Committees during the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly, and in this regard encourages the Main Committees:

(*a*) To ensure adequate coordination in their work while avoiding overlap and duplication;

(*b*) To hold elections for the bureaux of the Main Committees at least three months before the opening of each session, and preferably up to six months in advance of the session, and calls upon the regional groups to proceed with relevant nominations in a timely manner and in accordance with the interim arrangement set out in Assembly decision 68/505 of 1 October 2013;

(*c*) To benefit from their respective intranet and other online services to facilitate the smooth organization and timely conclusion of their work;

(*d*) To further enhance sharing of information on the work and activities of the Main Committees within each Main Committee;

(*e*) To further improve the management of the negotiation process for Assembly resolutions;

17. *Calls upon* outgoing Chairs of the Main Committees to brief incoming Chairs on best practices and lessons learned from previous sessions of the Main Committees and to provide their written observations and lessons learned to their immediate successors, and encourages the incoming Chairs and bureaux of the Main Committees to consult with Member States shortly after their election on how the work will be conducted during the upcoming session of their Committee;

18. *Reaffirms* existing relevant mandates related to the improvement of the working methods of the Main Committees, including section C of the annex to resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004, paragraphs 7 to 13 of resolution 59/313 of 12 September 2005 and cluster III of the annex to resolution 60/286 of 8 September 2006;

19. *Requests* each Main Committee to further discuss its working methods at the beginning of every session, and in this regard invites the Chairs of the Main Committees to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group during the seventieth session on any best practices and lessons learned with a view to improving working methods, as appropriate;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in his report submitted at the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, under the agenda item entitled "Pattern of conferences", information regarding the basis for the current practice whereby Member States bear the additional costs of using United Nations Headquarters conference services during business hours;

21. *Recalls* its decision in resolution 68/307 to conduct the elections of the non-permanent members of the Security Council and the members of the Economic and Social Council about six months before the elected members assume their responsibilities, beginning at the seventieth session, welcomes the current practice of the Security Council of inviting its elected members to observe some of its meetings and activities prior to the assumption of their responsibilities, and welcomes such efforts to afford elected members appropriate opportunities to prepare for their tenure in the Security Council;

22. *Emphasizes* that the General Assembly and its Main Committees, at the seventieth session, in consultation with Member States, should continue their consideration of and make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items on the agenda of the Assembly, including through the introduction of a sunset clause, with the clear consent of the sponsoring State or States, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group;

23. *Recalls* its resolution 48/264 of 29 July 1994, by which it adopted the Guidelines on the Rationalization of the Agenda of the General Assembly;

24. *Also recalls* the need to avoid duplication and overlap of the agendas of the General Assembly, especially of its Second and Third Committees, the Economic and Social Council, and its subsidiary bodies, and the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council and the Assembly, as well as all other related forums, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure;

25. *Further recalls* rules 153 and 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and encourages the Chairs of the Main Committees and the Secretary-General to ensure observance of these rules, within their respective mandates;

26. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the role of the General Committee to support the work of the General Assembly;

27. *Reiterates its invitation* to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the Chairs of the Main Committees, in consultation with the General Committee and Member States, to enhance the coordination of the scheduling of the meetings of the Assembly, including high-level meetings and high-level thematic debates, with a view to optimizing their interactivity and effectiveness, especially during the general debate, and distribution of such events throughout the session;

28. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, resolution 57/301 of 13 March 2003, by which the General Assembly, inter alia, decided that the general debate shall open on the Tuesday following the opening of the regular session of the Assembly and shall be held without interruption, and encourages the scheduling of future high-level meetings during the first half of the year, from within existing resources, taking into account the calendar of conferences and without prejudice to the current practice of convening one high-level meeting in September at the beginning of each session of the Assembly;

29. *Recalls* the interim arrangement approved by the General Assembly in decision 68/505, recommending a pattern for the rotation of the Chairs of the Main Committees until the seventy-third session of the Assembly, reiterates its request that the Ad Hoc Working Group prepare long-term arrangements concerning the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees with the aim of establishing a predictable, transparent and fair mechanism, in consultation with regional groups, and that it submit them to the Assembly no later than at its seventy-second session, and in this regard invites Member States to present proposals and begin at an early stage to devote attention to the matter of concluding a future arrangement, which would come into effect at the seventy-fourth session of the Assembly, with the annex to resolution 68/307 containing the guidelines on the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees to be considered in this context;

30. *Encourages* Member States to seek gender balance in the distribution of Chairs of the Main Committees and in the position of the President of the General Assembly;

31. *Also encourages* Member States to make, to the extent possible, full use of the e-services provided by the Secretariat, in order to save costs, reduce the environmental impact and improve the distribution of documents, and in this regard requests the Secretariat to further improve, harmonize and, where appropriate, unify such e-services;

Selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads

32. *Reaffirms its commitment* to continue, in the Ad Hoc Working Group, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, its consideration of the revitalization of the role of the General Assembly in the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General, and recalls all relevant resolutions, including resolutions 11(I) of 24 January 1946, 46/77 of 12 December 1991, 47/233 of 17 August 1993, 48/264, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 52/163 of 15 December 1997, 55/14 of 3 November 2000, 55/285 of 7 September 2001, 56/509 of 8 July 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002, 57/301, 58/126 of 19 December 2003, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286, 61/292 of 2 August 2007, 62/276 of 15 September 2008, 63/309 of 14 September 2009, 64/301 of 13 September 2010, 65/315 of 12 September 2011, 66/294 of 17 September 2012, 67/297 of 29 August 2013 and 68/307, reaffirming the applicable procedures set out in the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in particular rule 141, and acknowledging relevant existing Assembly practices;

33. *Calls upon* the President of the General Assembly to monitor and review the Assembly's implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions;

34. *Reiterates* that the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General differs from the process used with regard to other executive heads in the organizations of the United Nations system, given the roles of the Security Council and the General Assembly in accordance with Article 97 of the Charter, and emphasizes in particular that the process of selection of the Secretary-General shall be guided by the principles of transparency and inclusiveness, building on best practices and the participation of all Member States;

35. *Requests* the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Security Council to start the process of soliciting candidates for the position of Secretary-General through a joint letter addressed to all Member States, containing a description of the entire process and inviting candidates to be presented in a timely manner;

36. *Also requests* the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Security Council to jointly circulate to all Member States on an ongoing basis the names of individuals that have been submitted for consideration as candidates for the position of Secretary-General together with accompanying documents, including curricula vitae;

37. *Notes* that the selection and appointment of the next Secretary-General is expected to take place in 2016, and as a result requests, without prejudice to the role of the principal organs as enshrined in Article 97 of the Charter, the Presidents of the General Assembly, in particular those at the seventieth and seventy-first sessions of the Assembly, to actively support this process in accordance with the role accorded to them by relevant resolutions, including the present resolution;

38. *Stresses* the need to ensure equal and fair distribution based on gender and geographical balance, while meeting the highest possible requirements, on the appointment of executive heads of the Organization, including the Secretary-General, and in this regard invites Member States to consider presenting women as candidates for the position of Secretary-General;

39. *Stresses*, in particular, the need to ensure the appointment of the best possible candidate for the position of Secretary-General, who embodies the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity and demonstrates a firm commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and invites Member States to present candidates with proven leadership and managerial abilities, extensive experience in international relations and strong diplomatic, communication and multilingual skills;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group in a streamlined and comprehensive way on the gender balance and regional origin of the executive heads and the Senior Management Group of the Organization;

41. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the selection and conditions of service of executive heads in the organizations of the United Nations system,[5] proposing that the General Assembly conduct hearings or meetings with candidates running for the position of Secretary-General;

42. *Decides*, without prejudice to the role of the principal organs as enshrined in Article 97 of the Charter, to conduct informal dialogues or meetings with candidates for the position of Secretary-General, without any prejudice to any candidate who does not participate, thus contributing to the transparency and inclusivity of the process;

43. *Recalls* its resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, in particular paragraph 2 thereof, in which it noted that the Secretary-General will appoint the Deputy Secretary-General following consultations with Member States, and stresses that the process of appointment of executive heads of the Organization should be in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and as set out in the Charter;

44. *Affirms its readiness* to continue discussing all the issues relating to the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General in all their aspects within the Ad Hoc Working Group during its seventieth session, including those contained in the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group as contained in document A/69/1007;

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[5] A/65/71.

Strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

45. *Notes with appreciation* the views expressed by the Office of the President of the General Assembly to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the strengthening of the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the Assembly and its relationship with the Secretariat[3] and measures already undertaken in this regard, while continuing to explore additional measures where feasible, and notes the support provided by the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat to the Office of the President of the Assembly;

46. *Encourages* the Presidents of the General Assembly to continue with the practice of periodically briefing Member States on their activities, including official travel;

47. *Commends* the initiative of convening a retreat on the strengthening of the General Assembly, which brings together the incoming and outgoing presidencies of each session of the Assembly, and in this regard takes note of the summary of the proceedings of the retreat held on 26 and 27 June 2014;[6]

48. *Encourages* exchanges between the President-elect of the General Assembly and the Council of Presidents so that Presidents-elect may benefit from the experiences of former Presidents in terms of best practices and lessons learned, as part of strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

49. *Requests* the outgoing Presidents of the General Assembly to transmit to their successors a summary of their work during their terms of office and to brief them on the lessons learned and best practices, and encourages the holding of a structured and constructive exchange of experiences between them in the three-month transition period;

50. *Encourages* Presidents-elect to continue to ensure respect for balanced gender and geographical representation in the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

51. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventieth session of the General Assembly on sources of the funding and staffing of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, including on any technical, logistical, protocol-related or financial questions, and for more clarification on the budgetary basis for the provision of such support by the Secretariat;

52. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure, from within agreed resources, that the Office of the President of the General Assembly is allocated dedicated Secretariat staff, with responsibility for coordinating, in an efficient and capable manner, the transition between Presidents, managing interactions between the President and the Secretary-General and preserving institutional memory, and also emphasizes the desirability for staff in the Office of the President of the Assembly to be seconded from among Member States in a timely manner;

[6] A/69/562, annex.

53. *Notes* that the activities of the President of the General Assembly have increased markedly in recent years, recalls provisions regarding support for the Office of the President of the Assembly in previous resolutions, and expresses continued interest in seeking ways to further support the Office, in accordance with existing procedures, in particular rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly;

54. *Recalls its request* to the Secretary-General to submit, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, proposals to review the budget allocation to the Office of the President of the General Assembly in accordance with existing procedures, and in this connection looks forward to considering such proposals during the main part of its seventieth session;

55. *Stresses* the importance of the contributions of Member States to the Trust Fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and in this regard notes with appreciation contributions that have been made to the Fund and encourages Member States to continue to contribute to the Fund;

56. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventieth session of the Assembly on the role, mandate and activities of the President.

103rd plenary meeting
11 September 2015

General Assembly

Distr.: General
29 September 2015

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 34

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 11 September 2015

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/L.89 and Add.1)*]

69/322. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 41/11 of 27 October 1986, in which the Atlantic Ocean, in the region situated between Africa and South America, was solemnly declared a zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

Recalling also its subsequent resolutions on the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

Reaffirming that the questions of peace and security and those of development are interrelated and inseparable, and considering that cooperation among States, in particular those of the region, for peace and development is essential for the promotion of the objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

Reaffirming also the importance of the purposes and objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic as a basis for the promotion of cooperation among the States of the region,

Noting with appreciation the commitment of Member States towards fulfilling the goals of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic and their engagement in its revitalization through a number of initiatives, as reaffirmed during the seventh ministerial meeting of the zone, held in Montevideo on 15 and 16 January 2013, and building on the Luanda Initiative,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, in which it urged States of the region to continue their actions aimed at fulfilling the objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic, especially through the implementation of specific programmes,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

1. *Stresses* the role of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic as a forum for increased interaction and support among its member States;

[1] A/69/973 and Add.1.

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2. *Recalls with appreciation* the holding of the seventh ministerial meeting of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic and the adoption of the Montevideo Declaration[2] and the Montevideo Plan of Action;[3]

3. *Calls upon* States to cooperate in the promotion of the objectives of peace and cooperation established in resolution 41/11 and reiterated in the Montevideo Declaration and the Montevideo Plan of Action;

4. *Requests* the relevant organizations, organs and bodies of the United Nations system, and invites relevant partners, including international financial institutions, to render all appropriate assistance that States members of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic may seek in their joint efforts to continue to implement the Montevideo Plan of Action;

5. *Encourages* the convening of ministerial meetings on a biennial basis, as well as annual meetings on the sidelines of the General Assembly, and the establishment of a follow-up mechanism, as decided in the Montevideo Declaration;

6. *Acknowledges* the presentation during the seventh ministerial meeting of a number of bilateral cooperation programmes which complement the efforts aimed at enhancing cooperation within the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic;

7. *Recalls* the offer by the Government of Cabo Verde to host the eighth ministerial meeting of the States members of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic in 2015;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the implementation of resolution 41/11 and subsequent resolutions on the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic under review and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session, taking into account, inter alia, the views expressed by Member States;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session the item entitled "Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic".

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[2] A/67/746, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

General Assembly

Distr.: General
29 September 2015

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 68

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 11 September 2015

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/L.88 and Add.1)*]

69/323. International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of This Crime

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide[2] and other relevant international instruments,

Recalling its resolutions 96 (I) of 11 December 1946, 260 A (III) of 9 December 1948 and 53/43 of 2 December 1998 and other relevant resolutions within the United Nations system that have contributed to the establishment and development of the process of prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide,

Recalling also Human Rights Council resolutions 7/25 of 28 March 2008,[3] 22/22 of 22 March 2013[4] and 28/34 of 27 March 2015 on the prevention of genocide,

Reaffirming the significance of the Convention, adopted on 9 December 1948, as an effective international instrument for the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide,

Acknowledging that victims of and others affected by the crime of genocide as defined in the Convention call for a form of memorialization, which plays an important role in the prevention of genocide,

Reiterating the responsibility of each individual State to protect its populations from genocide, which entails the prevention of such a crime, including incitement to it, through appropriate and necessary means, and that fighting impunity for the crime of genocide is an important factor in its prevention,

Reaffirming its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 260 A (III), annex.

[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[4] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

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anniversaries, particularly paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for their proclamation, and paragraphs 13 and 14, stating that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 9 December as the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of This Crime;

2. *Encourages* all Member and observer States, all organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, and civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe the International Day in order to raise awareness of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide[2] and its role in combating and preventing the crime of genocide, as defined in the Convention, and to commemorate and honour its victims;

3. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution shall be met from voluntary contributions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations for appropriate observance.

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United Nations A/RES/69/324

General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 September 2015

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 122

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 11 September 2015

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/69/L.86 and Add.1)*]

69/324. Multilingualism

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that multilingualism contributes to the achievement of the goals of the United Nations, as set out in Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also that the United Nations pursues multilingualism as a means of promoting, protecting and preserving diversity of languages and cultures globally,

Recognizing further, in this regard, that genuine multilingualism promotes unity in diversity and international understanding, and recognizing the importance of the capacity to communicate to the peoples of the world in their own languages, including in formats accessible to persons with disabilities,

Stressing the need for strict observance of the resolutions and rules establishing language arrangements for the different bodies and organs of the United Nations,

Recalling that Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish are both the official and the working languages of the General Assembly, including its committees and subcommittees,[1] and of the Security Council,[2] that Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish are the official languages and English, French and Spanish the working languages of the Economic and Social Council,[3] and that English and French are the working languages of the Secretariat,[4]

Emphasizing the importance of multilingualism in the activities of the United Nations, including those linked to public relations and information,

Recognizing the contribution of multilingualism in promoting international peace and security, development and human rights, through the work of the United Nations departments and offices,

[1] Rule 51 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

[2] Rule 41 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council.

[3] Rule 32 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

[4] See resolution 2 (I), annex.

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Recalling its resolution 47/135 of 18 December 1992, by which it adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[5] in particular article 27 thereof, concerning the rights of persons belonging to ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities,

Recalling also its resolutions 2 (I) of 1 February 1946, 2480 B (XXIII) of 21 December 1968, 42/207 C of 11 December 1987 and 50/11 of 2 November 1995, and other subsequent resolutions relating to multilingualism, including resolutions 67/292 of 24 July 2013, 68/252 of 27 December 2013, 68/307 of 10 September 2014, 69/96 A and B of 5 December 2014, 69/250 of 29 December 2014 and 69/287 of 8 June 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

I

Multilingualism in general and the role of the Secretariat

2. *Emphasizes* the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations;

3. *Underlines* the need for the full implementation of all resolutions establishing language arrangements for the official languages of the United Nations and the working languages of the Secretariat;

4. *Also underlines* the responsibility of the Secretariat in integrating multilingualism into its activities, from within existing resources, on an equitable basis;

5. *Welcomes* the recent appointment by the Secretary-General of the Coordinator for Multilingualism, who is responsible for the overall implementation of multilingualism Secretariat-wide, calls upon all departments and offices within the Secretariat to fully support the work of the Coordinator in the implementation of the relevant mandates on multilingualism, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon in his next report on multilingualism;

6. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to develop the network of focal points that supports the Coordinator for Multilingualism in effectively and consistently implementing relevant resolutions throughout the Secretariat, and invites the Secretary-General, through his role in the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to support a comprehensive and coordinated approach on multilingualism within the United Nations system, taking into consideration the relevant recommendations contained in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on multilingualism;[7]

7. *Welcomes* the implementation, within the United Nations, of a day dedicated to each of the official languages in order to inform and raise awareness of their history, culture and use, encourages the Secretary-General to further strengthen this approach in a cost-neutral manner, if needed through the participation of partner organizations, including Member States and institutions such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and also encourages the

[5] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[6] A/69/282.

[7] A/67/78.

Secretary-General to consider extending this important initiative to other, non-official languages spoken throughout the world;

8. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by international organizations based on a shared language to increase their cooperation with the United Nations regarding multilingualism;

9. *Further welcomes* the activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Member States, entities of the United Nations system, other international organizations and all other participating bodies aimed at fostering respect for and the promotion and protection of all languages, in particular endangered ones, linguistic diversity and multilingualism;

10. *Reaffirms* that linguistic diversity is an important element of cultural diversity, stresses the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,[8] which entered into force on 18 March 2007, and recalls the Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace of 15 October 2003;[9]

II

Role of the Department of Public Information in multilingualism

11. *Reaffirms* that the primary mission of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat is to provide, through its outreach activities, accurate, impartial, comprehensive, balanced, timely, relevant and multilingual information to the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the United Nations in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization with the greatest transparency;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of making use of all the official languages of the United Nations, ensuring their full and equitable treatment in all the activities of the Department of Public Information, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages, and in this regard reaffirms its request that the Secretary-General ensure that the Department has the necessary staffing capacity in all the official languages to undertake all its activities;

13. *Also emphasizes* the role of the Department of Public Information in building support for international peace and security, development and human rights for all and the contribution of multilingualism in achieving these goals;

14. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information to enhance multilingualism in all its activities, stresses the importance of ensuring that the texts of all new public United Nations documents in all six official languages, information materials and all older United Nations documents are made available through the United Nations websites and are accessible to Member States without delay;

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[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2440, No. 43977.

[9] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-second Session, Paris, 29 September–17 October 2003*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. IV, resolution 41, annex.

15. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to continue to use other languages in addition to the official languages when appropriate, according to the targeted audience, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all the corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization;

16. *Welcomes* the work done by the network of United Nations information centres, including the United Nations Regional Information Centre, in favour of the publication of United Nations information materials and the translation of important documents into languages other than the official languages of the United Nations, encourages the information centres to continue their important multilingual activities in the interactive and proactive aspects of their work and to develop web pages in local languages, and the Department of Public Information to provide the necessary resources and technical facilities, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization, and encourages the continuation of efforts in this regard;

17. *Emphasizes* the importance of the network of United Nations information centres in enhancing the public image of the United Nations, in disseminating messages on the United Nations to local populations, especially in developing countries, bearing in mind that information in local languages has the strongest impact on local populations, and in mobilizing support for the work of the United Nations at the local level;

18. *Welcomes* the sustained effort to disseminate information globally by the use of official and non-official languages and traditional means of communication, and in this regard expresses its particular appreciation for the work currently being carried out by United Nations Radio in the six official languages, as well as in non-official languages;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure that, in view of their income-generating nature, guided tours at United Nations Headquarters are consistently available in all six official languages of the United Nations;

20. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to also offer guided tours at United Nations Headquarters in non-official languages;

21. *Notes* the proposal by the Chair of the Committee on Information to establish a group of friends of the Chair on multilingualism aimed at working with the Department of Public Information on effective, pragmatic and creative ways in which the issue of multilingualism could be addressed;

22. *Notes with interest* the cost-neutral initiatives of the Secretariat to produce publications in official and non-official languages, to increase the volume of translated publications and to encourage a multilingual acquisition policy for the libraries of the United Nations, and requests the Secretariat to continue those initiatives;

23. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to work at the local level with other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to enhance the coordination of their communications activities, and urges the Department to encourage the United Nations Communications Group to promote linguistic diversity in its work;

24. *Recalls* paragraph 62 of its resolution 69/96 B, and encourages the Department of Public Information to prioritize the development of collaborative arrangements for the digitization of the audiovisual archives of the United Nations while preserving their multilingual character in a cost-neutral manner;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations website and the United Nations News Service, contain comprehensive, balanced, objective and equitable information in all official languages about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

III

Websites and other web-based communication tools

26. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations website is an essential tool for Member States, the media, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions and the general public;

27. *Also reaffirms* the need to achieve full parity among the six official languages on all United Nations websites, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his next report on multilingualism a comprehensive review of the United Nations websites, including content discrepancies among the official languages, as well as to identify innovative ideas, potential synergies and other cost-neutral measures to achieve full parity among the six official languages;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his next report on multilingualism a comprehensive review of the United Nations websites, presenting the status of content in non-official languages, as well as identifying innovative ideas, potential synergies and other cost-neutral measures to reinforce the broader multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations websites, as appropriate;

29. *Recalls* paragraph 22 of its resolution 67/292, notes with concern the disparity between the English and the non-English languages on the websites maintained by the Secretariat, urges the Secretary-General to lead the efforts of all offices and departments of the Secretariat to take concrete action to address such uneven development, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders, including the Department of Public Information, content-providing offices and departments, in particular the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Secretariat, to continue their collaboration, within their respective mandates, so as to achieve full parity among the six official languages on all United Nations websites developed and maintained by all Secretariat entities, in full conformance with the principles of multilingualism and in compliance with the relevant resolutions addressing multilingualism and accessibility for persons with disabilities, by making every effort to translate materials currently available only in English and by providing offices and departments with technological solutions that comply with the principle of parity, from within existing resources;

30. *Urges* the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to develop, maintain and update multilingual United Nations websites and the web page of the Secretary-General in all the official languages of the United Nations, from within existing resources and on an equitable basis;

31. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure, while maintaining an up-to-date and accurate website, the equitable distribution of financial and human resources within the Department of Public Information allocated to the United Nations website among all six official languages, with full respect for the needs and specificities of all six languages;

32. *Notes with concern* that the multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations website in certain official languages has improved at a much slower rate than expected, and in this regard requests the Department of Public Information, in coordination with content-providing offices, to advance actions to achieve full parity among the six official languages on the United Nations website, in particular by expediting the filling of vacant posts in some sections;

33. *Takes note* of sections II.D and II.E of the report of the Secretary-General, requests the Secretary-General to continue his ongoing efforts in this regard, and urges all content-providing offices in the Secretariat to strengthen their efforts to translate into all official languages all English-language materials and databases posted on the United Nations website in the most practical, efficient and cost-effective manner, from within existing resources;

34. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the Office of Information and Communications Technology, to continue its efforts to ensure that technological infrastructures and supportive applications fully support Latin, non-Latin and bidirectional scripts in order to enhance the equality of all official languages on the United Nations website;

35. *Welcomes* the cooperative arrangements undertaken by the Department of Public Information with academic institutions to increase the number of web pages available in official and non-official languages, and requests the Secretary-General, in coordination with content-providing offices, to extend such cooperative arrangements, in a cost-effective manner, to all the official languages of the United Nations, bearing in mind the necessity of adherence to United Nations standards and guidelines;

36. *Underlines* the importance, in the implementation of new communication tools, such as social networks, of taking into account the linguistic dimension in order to assure full parity among the official languages of the Organization;

37. *Urges* the Secretariat to keep iSeek up to date in the two working languages of the Secretariat, to continue its efforts to implement iSeek at all duty stations and to develop and implement cost-neutral measures to provide Member States with secure access to the information currently accessible only on the Intranet of the Secretariat;

IV

Documentation and conference services

38. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to complete the task of uploading all important older United Nations documents to the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis so that those archives are also made available to Member States through that medium;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure, through the provision of documentation services and meetings and publishing services under conference management, including high-quality translation and interpretation, effective multilingual communication equally in all the official languages of the

United Nations among representatives of Member States in intergovernmental organs and among members of United Nations expert bodies;

40. *Reiterates with concern its request* that the Secretary-General ensure that the rules concerning the simultaneous distribution of documents in all six official languages are strictly respected as regards both the distribution of printed copies and the posting of parliamentary documentation on the Official Document System and the United Nations website, in accordance with section III, paragraph 5, of its resolution 55/222 of 23 December 2000;

41. *Reiterates* the need to fully implement and observe rule 55 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, which provides that, during the sessions of the Assembly, the *Journal of the United Nations* shall be published in the languages of the Assembly, from within existing resources;

42. *Underlines* that all the initiatives on the evolution of the working methods, including those introduced on a trial basis, shall comply with the principle of parity among the official languages of the Organization, with a view to preserving or enhancing the quality and scope of the services provided by the Secretariat;

V

Human resources management and staff training

43. *Recalls* its resolution 67/255 of 12 April 2013, in particular paragraph 35 thereof, in which it reaffirmed the need to respect the equality of the two working languages of the Secretariat, reaffirmed the use of additional working languages in specific duty stations as mandated, and in that regard requested the Secretary-General to ensure that vacancy announcements specified the need for either of the working languages of the Secretariat, unless the functions of the post required a specific working language;

44. *Notes with satisfaction* the willingness of the Secretariat to encourage staff members, in meetings with interpretation services, to use any of the six official languages of which they have a command;

45. *Encourages* United Nations staff members to continue to actively use existing training facilities to acquire and enhance their proficiency in one or more of the official languages of the United Nations;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the efforts to ensure that training opportunities in the six official languages are equally available to all staff;

47. *Recalls* section II, paragraph 17, of its resolution 61/244 of 22 December 2006, in which it acknowledged that the interaction of the United Nations with the local population in the field was essential and that language skills constituted an important element of the selection and training processes and therefore affirmed that a good command of the official language(s) spoken in the country of residence should be taken into account as an additional asset during those processes;

48. *Also recalls* its resolution 68/265 of 9 April 2014 on the mobility framework, and invites the Secretary-General to take into account applicable language skills while ensuring full compliance with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations;

49. *Stresses* that the employment of staff shall continue to be carried out in strict accordance with Article 101 of the Charter and in line with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions;

50. *Invites* the Secretary-General to ensure compliance with the requirement for United Nations staff to have the ability to use one of the working languages of the Secretariat, and encourages the Secretary-General to further the implementation of resolution 2480 B (XXIII);

51. *Also invites* the Secretary-General to take the appropriate measures to consider the linguistic specificities mentioned in vacancy announcements during the composition of interview panels for the employment of United Nations staff;

52. *Stresses* that the promotion of staff in the Professional and higher categories shall be carried out in strict accordance with Article 101 of the Charter and in line with the provisions of resolution 2480 B (XXIII) and the relevant provisions of resolution 55/258 of 14 June 2001;

VI

Language services staff

53. *Recalls* its resolution 66/233 of 24 December 2011, in particular paragraph 7 of section III thereof, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of services, with full respect for the specificities of the six official languages, and in that regard recalls section D, paragraph 11, of its resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999;

54. *Acknowledges* the measures taken by the Secretary-General, in accordance with its resolutions, to address the issue of the replacement of retiring staff in the language services, and requests the Secretary-General to maintain and intensify those efforts, including through the strengthening of cooperation with institutions that train language specialists to meet the needs in the six official languages of the United Nations;

VII

Field offices, peacekeeping operations and peacebuilding

55. *Notes* the submission to the Secretary-General of the report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations[10] and the recent issuance of the report of the Advisory Group of Experts on the Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture;[11]

56. *Recognizes* the contribution of the Language and Communications Programme to promoting multilingualism within the United Nations, encourages in this regard the Department of Field Support and the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat to continue to cooperate closely, from within existing resources, to support the language learning needs of staff in the field, and requests the Secretary-General to provide further information in this regard at the seventy-first session of the General Assembly;

[10] See A/70/95-S/2015/446.

[11] See A/69/968-S/2015/490.

57. *Stresses* the importance of proposing United Nations information, technical assistance and training materials, whenever possible, in the local languages of the beneficiary countries, including through locally based United Nations websites;

58. *Recalls* its resolution 69/287, in which it endorsed the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations;[12]

59. *Takes note* of section II.D.1 of the report of the Secretary-General, requests the Secretary-General to continue his ongoing efforts in this regard, and recalls its resolution 66/297 of 17 September 2012 without prejudice to Article 101 of the Charter;

60. *Urges* the Secretariat to translate all peacekeeping training documents into the six official languages of the United Nations, from within existing resources, to enable and facilitate their use by all Member States, troop-contributing countries and police-contributing countries, in particular, and by other involved institutions;

61. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a comprehensive report on the full implementation of its resolutions on multilingualism;

62. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Multilingualism"

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[12] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/69/19), chap. V.